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Food & Agriculture (1950) Department.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Conferences - Food Production - Conference of [redacted] Provincial and States representatives at Bombay on 30-6- and 1-7-49 - Summary of proceedings - Papers Recorded.

No.F.25-23/48-GMF
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture

NEW DELHI, the 13th July 1949.

From

S.T.Raja Esqr., B.A.,LL.B., (Bar-at-Law)
Under Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Agriculture,
NEW DELHI.

To

i) All Provincial Governments.
ii) The Governments of Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan, P.E.P.S.U. Sourashtra, Mysore, Tekku Kerala & Hyderabad (Deccan and
iii) All Local Administrations.

Subject: - FOOD PRODUCTION CONFERENCE OF PROVINCIAL AND STATES REPRESENTATIVES HELD IN BOMBAY ON THE 30TH JUNE AND IST JULY 1949 - PROCEEDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of each of the proceedings and recommendations of the Food Production Conference of the Provincial and State representatives held in Bombay on the 30th June and 1st July 1949 for information and necessary action. The amendments if any, may kindly be intimated so as to reach here latest by 31st July 1949. If no ammendments are received by that date, it will be presumed that no modifications is desired

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-(S.T.Raja)
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy together with two copies of the enclosures forwarded to the Food Ministry (Shri K.R.Damle, I.C.S., Joint Secretary)

Food Ministry are requested to keep in view item I(f) of the recommendations while making food grains allocation to deficit Provinces and States and also to intimate seed wheat allocations when made.

By Order,
(S.T.Raja)
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Two copies together with enclosures forwarded for information to Finance Ministry (1. Shri G.Mathias, Deputy Secretary), 2. Shri D.D.Chopra, Assistant Secretary).

By Order,

(S.T.Raja)
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

A copy with enclosures forwarded for information to the Ministry of States.

By order,

(S.T.Raja)
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Contd

Copy with enclosures forwarded for information to :-

1. Private Secretary to H.M.
2. Private Secretary to Secretary.
3. All Officers and Advisers of the Ministry
4. All Sections of the Ministry.

By Order,
(S.T.Raja)
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE OF PROVINCIAL & STATE REPRESENTATIVES HELD AT BOMBAY ON 30th JUNE AND 1ST JULY, 1949.

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The meeting was attended by representatives of all the Provinces and the States of Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan PEPSU, Sourashtra, Mysore, Travancore and Hyderabad. The list of representatives who attended the meeting is appended.

The Hon'ble Shri B.G.Kher, Premier of Bombay inaugurated the Conference owing to the inability of Shri Jairamdas Doulatram to go to Bombay due to ill health. The Premier of Bombay, in his inaugural address stressed the importance and urgency of the task of food self-sufficiency, which the Conference had set itself to solve by the end of 1951. Along with the increased production he also emphasised the necessity of tightening up procurement and distribution of foodgrains.

Shri K.L.Punjabi, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, presided and opened the discussions by explaining briefly the efforts which were being made for achieving self-sufficiency by the end of 1951.

ITEM I - Progress of Intensive cultivation Schemes.

Break-up of targets.

The Chairman pointed out that while the break-up of additional production of targets in terms of Kharif and Rabi crop and also in terms of recurring and permanent scheme of intensive cultivation, was received from some Provinces and States, a majority of them had not yet sent it. He expressed the hope that such Provinces and States which did not supply this information and were already requested to do so at the time of the Conference, would hand them over to Mr. H.C.Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture,. The representative of Assam and Sourashtra stated that the Kharif covered most of the production in their areas and they would, therefore, not be able to give the figures in terms of Kharif & Rebi. The Chairman said that in that case the information in respect of Kharif crop may be supplied with a note to that effect. The representative of the U.P. stated that the figure of additional total production for United Provinces shown in Appendix I should be 4,08,000 tons and not 5,61,146 tons as stated therein. It was explained to him that the total shown in Appendix I also included the additional production from the Kharif of 1951. The break-up of targets shown in Appendix I was accepted with the modifications in respect of Orissa figures, which were revised upwards by the Orissa representative from 32,000 to 50,751

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50751 tons for 1949-50 and from 41-000 to 79,600 tons for 1959-51. The details not supplied by certain Provinces and States were promised to be handed over to Mr. Sharma at the Conference and a consolidated statement containing both informations would be sent shortly to the Provinces and States.

Programmes for 1949-50

The Provincial Governments which did not send their intensive cultivation programme for 1949-50 were asked by the Chairman to do so at the earliest and if possible to hand it over to Mr. Sharma at the Conference. In this connection the representative of PEPSU stated that if the States and Unions of States were to be kept out of the financial assistance, they would be unable to implement their intensive cultivation schemes owing to lack of finances. He also made a point that the State areas being less developed than the Provinces there was greater potential for increasing the production . According to him, the same amount of investment in States would produce better results than in Provinces. He also added that the financial integration of States by 1st April, 1950 was already decided and the only question was whether, it would not be unwise to wait for this integration and to lose two seasons of crop. The Chairman promised to take up the matter immediately with the Ministry of Finance and to emphasise the point made out by the representative of PEPSU. All Representatives present, supported the proposal to include states and Unions of States in the scheme of financial assistance for intensive cultivation.

Progress reports 1948-49.

Shri S.Y.Krishnaswamy, Joint Secretary explained how the lack of uniformity in the preparation of progress report for 1948-49 made it difficult to assess the additional production resulting from intensive cultivation scheme. He explained that the improvements from permanent schemes like irrigation and land improvement would continue and additional production from them in previous years, should therefore be included in the subsequent years. But the same would not apply to recurring schemes like distribution of fertilisers manures and compost, in which case the additional production would depend only upon the actual quantities distributed in that particular year. With regard to seeds, it was also agreed that the schemes for seeds distribution would also be of recurring nature and if any Province wanted them to be treated as of permanent nature, it should make out a case for recogniton as a permanent scheme. It was decided that information would be supplied by the Provinces in a standard form which was approved at the Conference.

Item II of the Agenda - Supply of Essential Raw Materials: -

Iron & Steel for period IV: - The total allocation of iron and steel for agriculture for period IV and its distribution to provinces and States was considered by the Conference. All the representatives felt very much disappointed at the small quantity of 24,385 tons given for agriculture as against a minimum demand of 58,000 tons and felt that this would seriously handicap the foodgrains self sufficiency plans of the Provinces and States. The Chairman observed that he also shared the disappointment of the Conference and the Ministry of Agriculture would take early

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steps to try and get a supplementary allocation for period IV.

Cement & Coal:-

The Chairman informed the Conference that the Ministry of Industry and Supply had agreed with effect from 1st July, 1949 to separate the requirements of cement and coal for Intensive Cultivation Schemes from the rest of the Provincial and State requirements and this quota would be placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Agriculture for distribution to Provinces and States in the manner as the iron and steel allocation. This, he observed, would enable the Ministry of Agriculture to prepare a co-ordinated programme of supply of essential raw materials according to the needs and plans of each Province and State. The Chairman also expressed the hope that adequate quantities of cement and coal, which were so much in short supply, would be made available for the intensive cultivation schemes. ~~Estimates for~~

Estimates for 1950-51. The Chairman requested the representatives present to handover their estimates of requirements of essential materials for the calendar years 1950-51, to Shri H.C.Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture . He added that, as the intensive cultivation programmes uptil the end of 1951 were practically ready with the Provincial and State Governments, it should not be difficult for them to calculate their requirements based on the programmes prepared. The representatives agreed to do so.

Iron & Steel for refrigeration: - The representative of U.P stated in connection with the supply of iron and steel that the Refrigeration Development Engineer had directed some of the refrigeration concerns to the Provincial Agriculture Department for obtaining their requirements of iron and steel. It was explained to the representative of U.P., that the Refrigeration Development Engineer in the Ministry of Agriculture had a separate quota of iron and steel required for refrigeration development and that the matter would be inquired into and a reply sent to him shortly.

Fuel Oils:- Regarding distribution of fuel oils, there was a general complaint from all the representatives that the requirements of private parties for diesel oil for operating agricultural machinery were not met properly by the agents of the Petroleum Companies and it was necessary to impose a strict control over internal distribution as was done during war-time. Regarding storage facilities at various centres in provinces and States, it was felt that the best method of increasing such facilities was for the Provincial ~~XXXXXXXXX~~ and State Governments to contact the Petroleum Companies concerned and to ask and assist them in opening fresh depots and extending the existing storage facilities

Regarding the question of control over distribution, the Chairman assured the Conference that he would have the question taken up with the Ministry of Works Mines and Power and the Petrol and Companies concerned.

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Fertilizers: - The Chairman gave firsthand account of the world availabilities of fertilizers from his personal assessment of the situation during the recent F.A.O Council meeting at Paris. He said that the total world surplus available for distribution might be in the vicinity of one million tons both in hard and soft currency areas. It was, therefore, not possible for India to get its full requirements of chemical fertilizers which were about half a million tons. He emphasised the need for using phosphatic fertilizers and other indigenous manures. He also stated that Ammonium Sulphate should be used economically and applied mostly to the food crops as distinguished from cash crops. The representative of Bombay suggested that Provinces and States should use fertilizer mixtures with proportions of phosphatic and other organic fertilizers like oil-cake. The Chairman asked the Provinces and States to send their requirements of chemical fertilizer for the fertilizer year commencing from 1st July, 1948, and ending 30th June, 1950. He stated that, as the international allocation of fertilizers by the I.E.F.C was discontinued, the Government of India were making efforts to arrange for the maximum supplies possible in the present circumstances of world shortage and the difficulties of foreign exchanges, and as soon as the availabilities were known, allocations will be made by the Ministery of Agriculture. He also asked the Provinces and States to prepare the estimates of their requirements during 1950-51.

The question of granting subsidy for the distribution of Sulphate of Ammonia was raised at the Conference. The Chairman replied that the use of sulphate of ammonia was so popular and there was so much demand for it that the need for subsidising distribution of sulphate of ammonia did not exist. He, however, promised to examine the question of granting subsidy to Provinces in such cases where the increased production due to use of sulphate of ammonia did not compensate the farmer for the outlay on the fertiliser.

The representative of West Bengal stated that he required 8,000 tons of bonemeal and that some of the bonemeal received by him was not up to the mark. The Chairman suggested that as much as was available from the bone mills situated in West Bengal might be obtained. The complaint regarding quality of bone-meal world be examined by the Ministry of Agriculture. Secretary also informed the Conference of the latest decision of the Government of India, de-linking the export of bones from the supplies of bonemeal made available at the controlled price of Rs.170/- per ton. He stated that in future the export of crushed bones will take place without compelling the exporter to surrender the bonemeal at the controlled price. He, however, stated that bonemeal would in no event, be exported and will be purchased at a price to be negotiated later with the bone mills ~~and~~ and distributed to Provinces and States.

Compost :- Sardar Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research briefly explained the scheme for developing the manurial use of town and city sludge and sewage. He gave an outline of the work already being done in Madras and West Bengal and strongly recommended that similar schemes should be taken up in other Provinces and States . He stated that Dr. Talati who was an expert in utilisation of city sewage had been appointed in the Ministry of Agriculture and was available for consultation by the Provincial and State Governments. The Conference decided that the schemes with regard to preparation of compst in towns and villages should be pushed forward with vigour.

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Movement Programme: The Chairman requested the Provincial and State representatives present to give a phased programme for the movement of essential materials during 1949 1950, giving the monthly break-up of wagons required for moving these materials and also state the destinations to which the movement was required. Some of the provinces like Bihar and East Punjab had felt serious difficulties in moving their materials and they were asked by the Chairman to communicate their specific difficulties to the supply Movement Officer who would take up the matter with the Ministry of Transport.

Item III of the Agenda -- Reclamation Plans:-

Import Programme: - The Chairman informed the Conference that previous programme of importing 375 heavy tractors during 1949-50 was likely to be cut down to 180 as a result of the recommendations of the Standing Finance Committee. He also stated that it was not possible at that stage to assess the number of tractor units which would be available with the Central Tractor Organisation for land reclamation operation during 1949-50 and it would, therefore, be desirable to take up the question of allotment of tractor units at the next Confernce. While the Conference accepted the suggestion for postponing consideration of allocation of tractors to the next Conference, it felt that the cutting down of the tractor imports programme would have very serious repercussions on the reclamation of culturable waste lands and ultimately on the food production ~~pal~~ plans of the Provinces and States. They felt that the Government of India should ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ reconsider this decision and if it was not possible to do so, some of the Provinces and States should be permitted to import the remaining 195 tractors on their own account provided the Government of India would extend the necessary help in the form of foreign exchange and loans required for the purchase of the mechines. The representatives of U.P and Bombay were particularly keen that their reclamation plans should not be handicapped by this cut in the import programme. They were anxious to know if the Government of India would give the Dollar exchange and the loan if the Provincial Governments decided to buy the remaining 195 tractors on their own accounts They also wanted to know in the alternative if the foreign exchange saved by the cutting down of the import programme would be available for purchasing other agricultural equipments and spare parts. The Chairman promised to take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance and to intimate the results of his efforts as early as possible.

The representative of C.P. stated that his Government wanted 470 tractors during 1949-50 for establishing various tractor stations in different parts of the Province for doing follow-up cultivation and inquired if the Government of India could help them. The Chairman replied that the Government of India would be glad to give assistance in importing these tractors but suggested that the Provincial Governments may perhaps be able to arrange early deliveries by contacting the agents of the tractor manufacturers in the country and arrange for their supplies direct through them. He also stated that with regard to the import of medium-sized cultivation tractors, the policy was to allow imports from the soft currency areas. The Chairman also stated that in order to help the C.P. Government to select the right type of tractors, it would be better to send them information about the trials of several types of tractors. The Agricultural Development Commissioner agreed to send this information to the C.P. Government and the representative of Bombay also agreed to send the results of the various trials made by them

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in the Province. The representative of East Punjab requested the representative of Bombay to prepare a note on the subject and to circulate copies of the notes to other Provinces and States which he agreed ~~to~~ to do. The Chairman added that Provinces and States desiring to import agricultural machinery and equipment from abroad should apply in the prescribed form to the Chief Controller of Imports for an import licence and send a copy to the Ministry of Agriculture, which would recommend the cases.

The representative of West Bengal said that he wanted one unif of heavy tractors of the Central Tractor Organisation for land reclamation in West Bengal. The Chairman asked him to send his requirements of tractor units and other relevant information to the Ministry of Agriculture (Agricultural Development Commissioner). He also requested such other Provincial and State Governments who wanted help of Central Tractor Organisation should send their firm requirements and the necessary information regarding the extend and type of lands to the Agricultural Development Commissioner as early as possible.

WORLD Food Production: At this stage the Chairman gave to the Conference an appraisal of the world food position and some of the suggestions made by him, at the Food and Agriculture Organisation Council meeting. He stated that while most of the European countries had increased their production to the pre-war levels, the countries of the East and Far-East were only producing 93% of their pre-war production. With this low level of production and the increase in population the nutritional standards in these countries had gone down during the intervening period. The United States, Canada, Australia and some of the South American countries have increased their production considerably and are in a position to export but greatest impediment in the needy countries getting these surpluses was their inability to find adequate foreign exchange to pay for these food - grains which were selling at fairly high rates. He said that he had suggested that the Surplus foodgrains available with these countries should be shipped to the under-developed and under-nourished countries of the East at special subsidied rates and facilities should be given to these countries for making deferred payments later according to their capacities. He stated that some of the representatives from surplus countries were sympathetic to this suggestion and the matter would be considered further by a working party appointed by the F.A.O Council on which India was represented.

U.S.Aid to under developed countries:-

The Chairman also referred to the point (4) programme of President Truman. About $ 45 million were likely to be contributed by the U.S.A out of which the allotment to F.A.O was $ 10 million. He had passed in the Council that for affording technical assistance preference should be given to countries which were not in receipt of Marshall Aid. Secondly, that it would be better to train local persons by deputing them to advanced countries in preference to sending technical advisers to under-developed countries. There was scope for the latter course but the former should also be adopted to a larger extent. Thirdly, that it was necessary to integrate the provision of financial assistance to obain the machinery, equipment fertilisers etc.

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with the scheme for giving technical assistance. Tools must be supplied to carry out the technical advise given. He felt that the resources of the World Bank should be strengthened to meet the world demand.

Item IV of the Agenda -- Financing of Fisheries:-

The Fisheries Development Adviser explained the importance of fisheries development by private commercial concerns and the need for financing these concerns. He said that the Government of India examined the possibility of financing these concerns through the Industrial Finance Corporation but found that only the Industrial part of fisheries development like canning of fish would be eligible for a loan from the I.F.C.'s funds. It was, therefore, advisable that the Provincial Governments should finance these concerns by way of G.M-F. loan which they could borrow from the Central Government. The Chairman observed in this connection that in a large number of cases the amounts of G.M.F. and development loans earmarked for provinces were not fully utilised by them and that they could use these loans for financing development of fisheries by commercial concerns. The Conference agreed that such loans should be advanced by the Provincial Governments provided that (i) the commercial concerns had adequate assets; (ii) that the management was on sound lines and (iii) that such reasonable conditions imposed by the Provincial Government for the marketing of fish were accepted by the companies concerned. The representative of U.P suggested that it would be desirable to extend such loans from the provincial funds to the cooperative societies instead of to capitalistic concerns. The Chairman replied that the normal credit facilities available for financing coperative societies should be able to meet the demands of cooperative societies for fisheries. The Conference generally agreed that cooperative societies for development of fisheries could find the necessary finance from the District and Provincial Cooperative Banks, which depend for their finance on the Provincial Governments also.

The representative of U.P. inquired whether refrigeration schemes for the storage of fish and food would be eligible for G.M.F loans for subsidies. The Chairman promised to examine the question and to inform the U.P Government in due course.

The representative of East Punjab suggested that preservation of fish by canning should be encouraged as it was a more economical process than cold storage.

Loans to middle and large sized farmers:-

At this stage the Chairman said that he was receiving several applications from middle and large-sized farmers for direct loans from the Centre for development of agricultural farming. The demands of such farmers were such as could not be met by the cooperative societies and, on the other hand, the Central Government could not directly advance loans to them under present rules. He, however, wanted the Provincial and State Governments to examine this question and to suggest the best metod of financing such middle and large sized farmers for developing agriculture. The representative of U.P stated that his Government was giving direct Taccavi loans to such farmers but the rules of Taccvi necessarily limited the extent of such loans The representatives of Bombay and C.P also stated that their Government were making

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comments whereafter a special committee would be appointed to prepared the final scheme. The representative of U .P. stated that they were already working a pilot scheme of extension service. The Chairman requested him to send the U.P schemes and also his comments on the Central Governments draft scheme. He also requested all other Provinces and States to send their schemes, if any, and also their comments on the Central scheme at the earliest. So that the Committee can be appointed to examine the comments and to finalise the scheme. Bombay had sent it comments and other agreed to do so as early as possible.

Item VIII - Items suggested by Provinces.

Supply of Seeds:- The representative of Orissa had suggested this item and stated that he wanted improved seeds of wheat and gram from U.P and Bihar. The representatives of Bombay and C.P also stated that they required certain type of seed ~~that~~ wheat. The representative of the Ministry of Food, which is concerned with seed distribution, explained that the total demand for seed wheat was 42,000 tons. As against this demand, the Ministry of Food was arranging a supply of 20,000 tons of Sind wheat from Pakistan, 5000 tons from U.P. and 15000 tons from East Punjab, which would cover almost entirely the demand of seeds so far known to the Ministry of Food. Regarding the quality of seed wheat available, the Ministry of Food representative said that they were going to send special representatives for inspection and if any of the importing Provincial Governments desired to send their representatives it could be arranged. The Conference was generally of opinion that the pure varieties of seeds should be imported as far as possible even if it meant paying some extra premium. The representative of the Ministry of Food assured the Conference that the suggestion would be kept in mind and that the supplies would be arranged as early as possible.

Subsidiary Foodgrains:- The representative of Travancore had suggested this item on the Agenda with a view to stress the need for increasing production of subsidiary foodstuffs. The Chairman explained that a special committee was actually working in the Ministry of Food to increase this production. The representative of West Bengal complained that Tapioca cuttings were not supplied by Travancore, which is the main source of supply. The representative of Travancore replied that there was a ban on this export. The Chairman suggested that the Travancore representative should re-examine the position and try to spare some cuttings for other Provindes and states which may be interested in increasing Tapioca Production. The representative of Travancore promised to do so.

Subsidy for Seed Production: The representative of Orrisa had suggested this item on the Agenda. His contention was that because a premium has to be paid to the 'B' class growers for improved seeds, it is necessary to subsidise this Shri S.Y.Krishnaswamy clarified the position by explaining that all schemes for multiplication of seeds,

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seeds at Government Farms as well as with registered growers were eligible for subsidy and it was only the distribution of seed to the cultivator which was not eligible for subsidy because the demand for improved seed was already very great and far in excess of the supply. The representative of the C.P. enquired if the Government of India would subsidise the scheme if there was any new variety of seed which required popularising. The Chairman replied that almost all the improved varieties were known to the country, but if such a contigency did arise, the Government concerned might approach the Ministry of Agriculture at that time.

Subsidy for Land Reclamation. - The representative of Madras had suggested this item for discussing the need for a subsidy where marginal and sub-marginal lands were brought under cultivation. The Chairman replied that it was proved beyond any doubt that all schemes of land reclamation were self-liquidating and there was no need for taking up the marginal and sub-marginal lands when there were better types of culturable waste land available for cultivation. Moreover there would be practical difficulties in deciding whether a particular land was marginal or sub-marginal. He also pointed out that there were limited funds available for intensive cultivation schemes and it was desirable to restrict the expenditure, strictly to prductive schemes in real need of subsidies.

Supply of Tractors. - The representative of the C.P who had suggested this item, stated that his Government wanted 180 heavy tractors for Kans Eradication, in addition to the medium tractors required for follow up cultivation. The Chairman replied that the question of allocation of heavy tractors of the Central Tractor Organisation would be taken up at the next Conference. The representative of Madhya Bharat stated that early decision should be taken regarding the allocation of tractor units because certain preliminary arrangements have to be made in advance. The Chairman said that it would be done at the next Conference.

Training of Tractor Drivers.- The representative of Hyderabad had suggested this item and enquired if tractor drivers and mechanics could be trained by the Government of India and also whether the supply of machinery and equipment could be arranged by the Government of India. He stated that there was 1.33 crore acres of fallow land in Hyderabad State. The Chairman advised the Hyderabad representative to contact the Agricultural Development Commissioner of the Ministry of Agriculture on this subject.

Increase in Financial Limits for G.M.F.Grants.-

The representative of Orissa stated that the size of his Province had practically been doubled by the merger of a large number of Orissa States and this had naturally increased the number and extent of Grow More Food plans for which there was considerable scope in the State areas recently merged with the Province. He suggested that although the merged States were treated as part of the Province, the extent of subsidy for Orissa Province was not increased. He, therefore, suggested that this question should be re-examined and the financial grant for Orissa Province should be increased. The Chairman promised to look into this matter and to represent the matter to the Ministry of Finance

Cont. (P.T.O.)

Bullock Rearing Farms.- The representative of U.P enquired whether a scheme for rearing cattle and selling it at subsidised concessional rates to agriculturists would be eligible for a subsidy under the Grow More Food Scheme. The Chairman replied that although the scheme for improving the quality and quantity of cattle would be welcomed in the interest of the country, it will have to be examined from the angle whether such a scheme would increase food production in the very near future. He asked the representative of the U.P to prepare his scheme and to send it to the Ministry of Agriculture which would, thereafter consult the Ministry of Finance.

Availability of Barbed Wire.- The representative of U.P stated that barbed wire was required for fencing good agricultural lands and and it was not possible to get this. The Chairman replied that the matter would be taken up by the Supply & Movement Officer with the Ministry of Industry and Supply.

Publicity.- The Chairman pointed out that the present publicity in connection with the intensive cultivation programmes did not percolate down to the agriculturists who were the persons utimately to increase food production. The representatives of Bombay and U.P might suggested that the weekly letters might be discontinued and there might be a fortnightly or monthly reports instead. The Chairman replied that his suggestion was for intensifying the present publicity measures and not for relaxing them and he asked the representatives present to give earnest consideration to this matter and to suggest concrete steps for proper publicity at the Conference . It was suggested at the Conference that an Agricultural News Letter issued by the Central Ministry of Agriculture and widely circulated in the country might be one of the methods.

F.A.O.Co-operation Conference. - The Chairman informed the Conference that a Conference on Agricultural Cooperation for East Countries was proposed to be held in India under the auspices of the Food and Agricultural Organisation from 24th October, 1949 to 5th November, 1949. He added that although the venue for this Conference in India was not fixed, there were certain suggestions made by the Provincial Governments.

Monthly meeting for supply and Movement.; It was the general feeling of the Conference that in view of the large number of cases of inadequate supply and movement arising from time to time, it would be advantageous to have monthly conference of the Supply & Movement Officers of Provinces and States with the Central Ministry of Agriculture. It was decided that the next Conference of these officers should be held in the Ministry of Agriculture at Delhi on the 1st August 1949.

It was also decided that the next Conference of the Provincial and State Representatives should be held at Bangalore on Friday the 2nd September 1949.

LIST OF PERSONS WHO ATTENDED THE FOOD PRODUCTION CONFERENCE HELD AT BOMBAY ON THE 30TH JUNE AND 1ST JULY,1949.

Ministry of Agriculture.

1. Shri K.L.Panjabi, I.C.S., Secretary.

2. Shri Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and Additional Secretary.

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3. Shri S.Y.Krishnaswamy, I.C.S., Joint Secretary.

4. Shri D.R.Sethi, Agricultural Development Commissioner.

5. Shri Baini Prasad, Fisheries Development Adviser.

6. Shri H.C.Sharma, Deputy Secretary.

7. Shri J.S.Raj, Economic and Statistics Adviser.

8. Shri S.T.Raja, Under Secretary.

9. Shri R.K.Chatterjee, Information Officer.

Ministry of Food.

1. Shri K.R.Dambe, I.C.S., Joint Secretary.

2. Shri T.J.Bhojwani, R.F.C., Bombay.

3. Shri P.C.Zachariah, Under Secretary.

Ministry of Finance.

1. Shri J.Mathias , Deputy Secretary.

Provincial Representatives.

Assam.

1. Shri S.C.Roy, Additional Secretary, Development Department.

Bihar.

2. Shri H.Lal, Secretary, Development Department.

3. Shri J.S.Patel, Director of Agriculture.

4. Shri A.C.N.Gordon, Joint Director of Agriculture.

Bombay.

5. Shri D.N.Mehta, Secretary, Development Department.

6. Shri D.S.Hoshi, Secretary, Eduation and Industries Department

7. Shri D.A.Gadkany, Director of Agricultural Engineering.

8. Shri P.J.Patel, Director of Agricultural Engineering.

9. Shri B.N.Uppal, Director of Agriculture.

10. Shri M.B.Ghatse, Deputy Director of Agriculture.

11. Shri R.S.Basror, Mechanical Cultivation Engineer.

12. Shri S.K.Redekar, Under Secretary, Agriculture and Rural Department.

13. Shri G.M-.Sankpeh, Statistician.

14. Shri C.K.Marw, Under Secretary, Labour Department and Assistant Housing Commissioner (Materials).

C.P. and Berar.

15. Shri P.D.Nair, Director of Agriculture.

East Punjab.

Shri D.D.Kapila, Deputy Secretary, Development Department.

PTO

17. Shri Lal Singh, Director of Agriculture.

Madras.

18. Shri C.K.Vijaiyaraghavan, Commissioner for Food Production.

19. Shri N.S.Mani, Secretary, Food Production Department.

Orissa

20. Shri S.C.Roy, Additional Secretary, Development Department.

21. Shri R.P.Padhi, Director of Agriculture and Food Production.

United Provinces.

22. Shri A.N.Jha, Secretary, Agriculture Department.

23. Shri R.N.Mathur, Under Secretary, Colonisation.

24. Major Harpal Singh, Sardhar, Deputy Director Colonisation.

25. Shri P.J.Viswanathan, Chief Agricultural Engineer.

26. Shri John A.Manarwar, Joint Director of Agriculture.

West Bengal.

27. Shri S.K.Dey, Secretary, Agriculture Department.

28. Shri K.Ghar, Director of Agriculture.

State Representatives.

Sourashtra.

1. Shri R.K.Trivedi, Secretary, Food and Agriculture.

2. Shri K.S.Sursinghji, Director of Agriculture.

Pepsu.

3. Shri B.R.Patel, Chief Secretary.

4. Shri Kartar Singh, Director of Agriculture.

5 Rajasthan.

5. Shri B.Metha, Secretary, Agriculture, Delhi.

6. Shri B.Vishwanathan, Director of Agriculture.

Mysore.

7. Shri K.H.Srinuvasal, Director of Agriculture.

8. Shri V.Vedanyasacharya, Revenue Commissioner..

Hyderabad.

9. Shri Nahandra Bahadur, Secretary, Rural Reconstruction, Department.

10. Shri Mahinder Bahadur, Director of Agriculture.

Madhyabharat.

11. Shri L.O.Joshi, Deputy Development Secretary.

12. Shri K.I.Madani, Director of Agriculture.

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their self-sufficiency plan. If the Government of India are not willing to revise their decision and to import 375 heavy tractors on their account, they should give the required facilities of foreign exchange and loans to such Provinces and State Governments as may be willing to import the remaining 195 tractors on their (Province and State Governments) own account.

(b) Allocation of Tractor Units:- In view of the difficulty of estimating the exact number of Tractor Units of the Central Tractor Organisation which would be available for land reclamation in 1949-50, the question of allocating should be deferred until the next meeting and in the meanwhile the Province and States should send their firm requirements of tractor units giving full details of their land reclamation plans, to the Agricultural Development Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture New Delhi.

Item IV Financing of Fisheries:

In view of the importance of developing fisheries by commercial concerns with adequate assets and the difficulties of financing these concerns directly by the Central Government, Provincial and State Governments should generally advance loans to commercial corporations as Grow More Food loans provided that

(a) the assets of the commercial concerns were enough to justify the loans;

(b) the Provincial Governments were satisfied that the management of the commercial concerns was on proper lines; and

(c) the concerns accepted such necessary and reasonable conditions for marketing as the Province or State Government might lay down. The Provincial Governments could ask for Grow More Food loans from the Central Government for financing these schemes as long as the amount required is within the overall block amount of loans provided for development in each province.

Item V - Statistical Assessment of Intensive Cultivation:

(i) The Conference generally approved the method suggested by the Central Ministry of Agriculture for assessing results of intensive cultivation scheme by a series of crop cutting experiments in areas under intensive cultivation and those not under intensive cultivation and using results of these experiments for ascertaining extra yields and production, the Provinces and States will take steps to employ these methods subject to such veriations as local conditions may demand.

Item VI Award of Prizes:

(ii) The Conference is of the opinion that the award of prizes for the best method of intensive cultivation and extra production is very desirable as an important psychological factor to encourage the spirit of healthy rivalry among the cultivators. While some Provinces and State Governments have already got schems for distribution of such prizes, others agree to prepare their schemes after examining the schemes operating in other Provinces and to introduce them as early as possible.

(ii) The Central Government should also finalise their central scheme for distribution of trophies and rewards after the names of national leaders, which would be an additional and important incentive to the villages, Tehsils

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Tehsils and Districts for making a bid for the Central trophies.

Item No.VII Extension Service:

The introduction of extension service in all Provinces and States and its general guidance and co-ordination from the Centre is highly desirable. The Provinces and States should send their comments on the skeleton scheme prepared by the Central Ministry of Agriculture. Such Provinces and States as have already been doing some extension work should also send copies of their schemes to the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture. These comments and the schemes should be received in the Ministry of Agriculture not later than 20th July 1949, whereafter a Sub-committee will be appointed to examine the various comments and schemes and to finalize the scheme.

Item No.VIII- Item suggested by Provinces and States

(a) Subsidy for sulphate of Ammonia: While there should be no subsidy on the distribution of sulphate of ammonia, the question of subsidising such distribution in Provinces where the procurement price for paddy or rice is lower than the corresponding price of sulphate of ammonia, should be examined by the Ministry of Agriculture.

(b) Barbed Wire: Owing to the requirement of barbed wire for fencing lands and its short supply in the country steps should be taken by the Ministry of Agriculture to increase the availability of barbed wire to Provinces and States for Agricultural purposes.

(c) Supply and Movement Conference: In addition to the periodical conferences for examining the progress of Intensive Cultivation plans, there should also be a separte meeting of the Supply and Movement Officers of the Provinces and States to discuss and remove the bottlenecks in the supply and transport of essential raw materials on which depends very largely the success of the sulf-sufficiency plan. The next meeting of such Supply and Movement Officers should be held in the Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi on Monday the 1st August 1949.

(d) Time and Place for next Conference:

The next meeting of this Conference should be held at Bangalore on Friday the 2nd September, 1949.

No.F.25-42/49-CMF (Co)
Government of India,
Ministry of Agriculture,
New Delhi, the 17th November 1949

From

Shri S.T. Raja, B.A., LL.B., Bar-at-Law,
Under Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture,
Government of India.

To

1. All Provincial Governments.
2. All Governments of States & States Unions
3. All Local Administrations.

Subject: FOOD PRODUCTION CONFERENCE OF PROVINCIAL AND STATES REPRESENTATIVES HELD IN BOMBAY ON THE 30TH JUNE AND 1st JULY 1949 - PROCEEDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AMENDMENTS TO.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Ministry letter No.F25-23/49 CMF, dated the 13th July, 1949, forwarding a copy of the proceedings and recommendations of the above mentioned Conference and to request that the amendments indicated in the Appendix may please be carried out therein.

Yours faithfully,

(S.T.Raja)
Under Secretary.

Copy to:-

1. Food Ministry (Shri K.R.Dambe, I.C.S., Joint Secretary.
2. Ministry of States.
3. Ministry of Finance (Shri G.Mathias, Deputy Secretary)
4. Ministry of Finance (Shri D.D.Chopra, Assistant Secretary

By order,

Sd/-xxxxxxxxxx
(S.T.Raja)
Under Secretary.

Copy to:-

1. Private Secretary to H.M.
2. Private Secretary to F.P.C.
3. Private Secretary to Secretary.
4. All Officers and Advisers of this Ministry
5. All sections of the Ministry.

By order,
S.T.Raja,
Under Secretary.

APPENDIX.

Amendments to be carried out in the proceedings and recommendations of the Food Production Conference of the Inter-Provincial and States Representatives held in Bombay on the 30th June and 1st July 1949.

(a) Page 8 of the Proceedings - Portion relating to Import Programme' - Please substitue the following sentences for the second and third sentences therein:-

" He also stated that it was not possible at that stage to assess the number of tractor units which would be available with Central Government Tractor Organisation for Land Reclamation operaion during 1949-50 and the question of allotment of tractor units would be decided shortly by the Ministry of Agriculture. While the Conference accepted this suggestion, it felt that the cutting down of the tractor imports programme would have very serious repercussions on the reclamation of cultivable waste lands and ultimately on the food production plans of the Provinces and States"

(b) Insert the following paragraph at the end of page 14 under item 'Extension Service'.

"The Director of Agriculture, Mysore referred to the Organisation of the Agricultural Department in Mysore and explained that the results of their experiments were being taken to the villages in close association with the leading Agriculturists of the locality".

(c) Page 15 of the Proceedings: Please read item VIII as 'Items suggested by Provinces and States.

(d) Page 17 of the Proceedings:- Insert the following paragraph in between the two paragraphs with captions "Increase in financial limits for Grow More Food grants" and "Bullock Rearing Farms": -

" The Revenue Commissioner of Mysore gave a brief outline of the three year plan for stepping up food production in Mysore and urged that in view of the financial integration of State which should bear half the non-recoverable expenditure on the 3 year plan. The Chaiman said that this and similar requests from other States - Unions would receive the careful consideration of the Central Government ".

(e) Page 17 of the Proceedings - Paragraph relating to 'Bullock Rearing Farms:-

In the first sentence please insert the word 'Draught' in between the words 'Rearing' and Cattle.

(f) List of persons appended to the Proceedings - Please read

(i) Shri S.Majid, Additional Director, of Agriculture for Shri S.C.Roy, Additional Secretary, Development Department, appearing under 'Assam' and

ii) Shri D.N.Mehta, Secretary, Agriculture and Forest Department.

iii) Shri D.A.Gadkary.

iv) Shri P.J.Patel, Agricultural Engineer to Government.

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will take place within the next few months, the Govt of India

v) Shri M.B.Ghatge.

vi) Shri R.S.Basrur.

vii) Shri S.K.Bedekar, Under Secretary to Agriculture and Forest Department.

viii) Shri G.M.Sankpal, Director, Bureau of Economics and Statistics.

xi) Shri C.K.Maru.

for those against Nos.5,7,8,10,11,12,13, and 14 under 'Bombay

(g) page 4 of the Recommendations - Para relating to the 'Allocation of Tractor Units - Please substitute the following:-

" The question of allocation will be decided shortly by the Ministry of Agriculture" for the question of allocation should be deferred until the next meeting."

Food and Agriculture Department

Please see the Food Production Commissioner's reply at page 107 c.f. in reply to our D.O at page 101 c.f.

As the Commissioner has no amendments to propose to the proceedings forwarded by the Government of India with their letter at page 71 c.f. no action is necessary with reference to 'A' on page 71 c.f.

As regards para 2 of the Commissioner's letter at page 107 c.f. his report at page 7-65 has been examined in the Sectional notes below. Orders may be passed in the sectional notes below on further notes. After orders are passed and the issue of the necessary drafts, the papers may be recorded.

Sd/-xxxxxxxx,
10-8-49

G.O .Ms. No.792 Food & Agriculture, dated 22-8-49.

R e c o r d e d .

Sd/-xxxxxxxxx,
22-8-49.

Abstract:- Conferences - Food Production - Conference of Provincial and State Representatives at Bombay on 30-6-49 and 1-7-49 - Summary of proceedings - Papers Recorded.

/True copy/

R. Thiagarajan
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

NG.

25/11/53